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ALTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health



and

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the year

1961

ALTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



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Councillor A. N. Bisset

Vice-Chairman of Council

Councillor J. H. Knight

Public Health Committee

Chairman

Councillor E. T. Hutley

Members as at 31/12/61

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Councillor (Mrs.) M. J. Piggott

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Representatives on the Joint Slaughterhouse Committee

Councillors Hutley, Knight, Radford and Stratford

Representatives on the Alton (No. 7)

District Health Sub-Committee

Councillors Mrs. M. M. Brockes and Mrs. C. Harckham

Staff

Medical Officer of Health:

R. L. Goodey, B.A., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

and Meat and Food Inspector: D. M. Ling, C.S.I.B., M.R.S.H.,
M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk:

M. G. Worthington

ALTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
HIGH STREET, ALTON, HANTS.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1961**

Introduction

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of Alton for the year 1961.

The Population of the urban area remained the same in 1961, although with the industrial expansion now proceeding in the town an increase is likely in 1962. The chief item of interest during the year was the campaign for vaccination against poliomyelitis. It is always satisfying when a result is obtained which can be plainly seen and expressed in figures. Frequently statistics appear to emphasise disease rather than health, and defects more than positive improvements.

Notification of infectious disease throughout the year were few; in the spring, influenza, a non-notifiable disease, was prevalent.

I am grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their encouragement and assistance, to Mr. Ings, Clerk of the Council, to Mr. Ling, Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Worthington, and Mr. Dunk. I much appreciate the help of officers of other departments of the Council, who have provided information for this report and have co-operated with the Public Health Department throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

R. L. GOODEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members
of Alton Urban District Council.

Part 1

General Report of the Medical Officer of Health General and Social.

Alton Urban District is an area lying north and south of the main London to Winchester road. The congestion in the centre of the town, due to a narrow out of date High Street, steadily becomes worse each year. Slowness in replacing this road by a by-pass (which, of course, is not this Council's responsibility) increases hazards, particularly to the aged.

In Alton many of the adult inhabitants are engaged in light industry, for which there are a number of small factories, ranging from clothing to artificial limbs, from iron work to paint spraying. Others are engaged in the brewing trade, for which Alton has been celebrated for a century and a half.

Alton is a typical small country town, a centre for the surrounding agricultural community. Dairy and pig farming is carried on in the outlying districts of Holybourne and Beech, but the area is predominantly residential.

Comments on Statistics.

It should be emphasised that with small numbers involved many of these figures are not statistically significant, and conclusions drawn from them may be misleading. The estimated population (mid-year 1961) was 8920, approximately the same as 1960 (8930).

Population growth in Alton has been slow, a hundred years ago the population was 2761, and the earliest figures, those for 1811, show 2316 living in Alton.

Live births in the area totalled 138 (57 male and 81 female) giving a birth rate of 15.5 which is little altered when adjusted by the comparability factor, becoming 15.7. Birthrate (adjusted) for Alton in 1959 was 16.8. There were 12 illegitimate births included in the total of 138 live births. In Alton Urban District area there were 129 deaths, comprising 69 males and 60 females. The adjusted death rate per 1000 of estimated population was 13.9, compared with a rate of 12.4 during 1960. The crude death rate (provisional) for England and Wales in 1961 was 12.0

Infant Mortality Rate.

In 1961 there were 5 deaths of infants under one year of age (of which 3 occurred during the first four weeks of life). The infant mortality rate for this area is 36.2, that for England and Wales for 1961 was 21.4. There were no stillbirths and no deaths associated with childbirth.

Causes of Death.

The greatest number of deaths in the area (66 out of 129) was due to diseases of the heart and arteries (including cerebral

vascular accidents), and the next highest (25) due to cancer and leukemia.

There is one common form of cancer for which preventive measures are now widely known, that is cancer of the lung. The association of cigarette smoking with lung cancer is now accepted. Twenty-three surveys have been carried out in Europe and America. One survey, in 1959 in the United States of over a million people, confirmed the general impression "The overall death rate appears to increase with the degree of pulmonary exposure to tobacco smoke, and this is dependant on the depth of inhalation as well as on the amount of smoking". As cigarette smokers inhale, higher death rates than for pipe and cigar smokers are experienced.

The number of deaths in Alton Urban District from cancer of the lung during the last ten years is set out in the following table. The preponderance of men should be noted.

Deaths from lung cancer in Alton Urban District during the last 10 years.

	Male	Female
1952	1	1
1953	2	1
1954	1	—
1955	2	—
1956	1	1
1957	2	4
1958	1	—
1959	2	2
1960	4	—
1961	3	—
	<hr/> 19	<hr/> 9

There are no figures available for this area for the amount of chest illness such as chronic bronchitis which is a further hazard of smoking. There were six deaths from bronchitis, 5 male and one female, in 1961.

As the population grows older so the degenerative diseases of middle and old age become more prominent, of these a certain number must be considered as part of the normal physiological process of ageing. Retiring from employment at the age of 65, however, very frequently means, for men, relinquishing the occupations which have taken up most of their life interests, and they find a satisfactory substitute difficult. Avoidance of stress, moderation in exercise and diet, and an adequate preparation for retirement before that time arrives are one of the best recipes for longevity.

Infectious Diseases.

Very few infectious diseases were notified during the year.

(1) Measles.

During the year 123 notifications of measles were received, as compared with 3 in 1960. This was to be expected as measles fluctuates biennially. In America a vaccine has been on trial for the last four years; full reports as to its effectiveness are not yet available.

(2) Whooping-Cough.

One case only of whooping-cough was notified during the year. With immunisation against whooping-cough now generally given together with that against diphtheria, whooping-cough has declined considerably in incidence and virulence.

(3) Scarlet Fever and Erysipelas.

Two notifications were received of these conditions which are due to streptococcal infection. The streptococcus is widespread in the community, and notification gives little information regarding its prevalence.

(4) Influenza.

Influenza as such is not notifiable, but information was obtained from other sources as to its incidence in February and March 1961, in this and the surrounding area. Sickness claims rose to over two and a half times normal, and of these claims nearly a half were ascribed to influenza. There were three deaths, all males, certified as due to influenza.

(5) Poliomyelitis.

No cases have been reported since 1955.

(6) Diphtheria.

There have been no cases reported for the last fifteen years.

(7) Food Poisoning and Dysentery.

No cases have been reported but this does not necessarily mean that no cases have occurred. Sonne dysentery is generally mild, and frequently of short duration; it is best prevented by methods of personal hygiene.

(8) Tuberculosis.

There was one case only of tuberculosis notified during the year. The Mass Radiography Unit visited Alton Urban District during 1960, and provided figures during 1961. Out of 1878 chest X-rays which were taken, four new cases of tuberculosis were detected.

Immunisation Schemes.

(1) Diphtheria.

It is essential to secure a high level of immunisation against diphtheria in young children, 70% to 75% is regarded as a

reasonable standard at which to aim, as there is always that residue of apathetic and antagonistic parents who are unwilling to see that their children receive the protection which they ought to have. The most obvious illustration of the efficacy of immunisation can be seen from the following list of notifications of diphtheria and deaths due to diphtheria in England and Wales, during the years since the last war.

England and Wales.

Year	Deaths	Notifications
1945	722	18,596
1950	49	962
1955	12	155
1960	5	49

In Alton Urban District every effort is made, by circularising parents, by the persuasion of the Health Visitors, and by posters and publicity at the local clinic, to ensure that the number of infants immunised reaches as high a level as possible. There were 138 children born in the area in 1961, and, during 1961, 112 infants under twelve months of age completed a course of immunisation. It is customary to derive a percentage from these two figures, therefore this is 81.2%.

In order to maintain immunity, “booster” doses are given at the ages of five and ten, either at school or by private doctors. The table below gives the number of record cards received in 1961, including both primary courses and such “booster” injections.

**Number of Record Cards Received during 1961,
irrespective of date of completion.**

Year of Birth	Diph. only		Diph.&W/cgh		W/cgh. only		Diph. & Tetn.		Triple	
	Primary	Booster	Primary	Booster	Primary	Booster	Primary	Booster	Primary	Booster
1961	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	35	—
1960	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	55	—
1959	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
1958	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
1957	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
1952-56	2	38	1	28	—	1	—	—	5	20
1947-51	—	39	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	20
Total	2	77	11	29	—	1	—	1	105	41

Protection against whooping-cough is also available. It is generally provided, together with protection against diphtheria and tetanus, in the Triple Antigen. The dangers of whooping-cough lie in occasional serious after effects; these, with modern treatment, are much less frequent than they used to be, but immunisation is just as necessary as in the past.

(2) Vaccination against Smallpox.

To the south and east of the town are large military camps, and persons returning from abroad are common in Alton. Many years ago smallpox was a frequent and unwelcome visitor, (the first mention of a district nurse, although not under that name, is made in the Churchwarden's account for 1755, when money was paid out to a woman for "nursing the smallpox"). Happily nowadays such visitations rarely occur, but it is still advisable to be protected. According to the Ministry's latest official advice (April '62) such protection is best carried out in the first two year's of life; the table below gives the number of persons vaccinated according to their age groups. Primary vaccinations in the first year of life, expressed as a percentage of live births recorded in the area was 70.7%. This should be compared with a total urban rate in Hampshire of 61.0%.

Smallpox Vaccinations

Age at which vaccinated	Primary Vaccinations	Revaccinations
Under 1 year	99	—
1—4 years	16	—
5—14 years	4	4
15 years and over	7	48
Total	126	52

(3) Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

Vaccination against tuberculosis is available for children aged 13 in schools in this area. A preliminary skin test is given to discover if such vaccination is necessary. The following figures should prove of interest:—

B.C.G. Vaccination — 1961.

Number of children eligible	...	...	...	...	910
Number of parental consents received	...	...	...	...	699
Number of children skin tested	...	...	...	...	668
Number of children not requiring vaccination (Tuberculin positive)	...	...	...	...	126
Number of children receiving B.C.G.	...	...	...	...	539

Thus the percentage of tuberculin positive children attending schools in this area is approximately 18.8.

(4) Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

Throughout the year the campaign continued. Evening clinics were held, a mobile vaccination unit was stationed in the centre of the town for sessions during the day, and a clinic was held in one of the larger factories. Publicity was obtained through the

press, through loudspeakers, and through posters. In the summer term the Ministry's programme to provide fourth injections of vaccine for children in primary schools was implemented.

The County Medical Officer has supplied the following statistics to cover second poliomyelitis vaccinations completed in Alton Urban District, up to the end of 1961.

**Figures up to December 31st, 1961,
For Vaccination against Poliomyelitis in Alton Urban District**

Dates of Birth	1943-61	1933-42	1921-32	Before 1921
Estimated Potential	2594	1134	1294	—
No. completed 2nd injections	2141	736	337	61
Percentage	82.0	67.0	25.0	—

The percentage in each case is based on the total estimated number of eligible persons within the respective age group, and the estimated potentials are calculated from the population breakdown at mid 1960 applied to the mid 1961 population, and should be accepted only as a rough guide. In 1962 oral vaccine is to be made available (this has already been done). Unquestionably oral vaccine is more effective, gives much greater immunity, is easier to give, and is safe. It should be noted that, according to the manufacturers, 167 millions of persons have been given this Sabin-type oral vaccine without any ill-effects. It is to be hoped, therefore, that Salk vaccine by injection will be rapidly replaced by Sabin oral vaccine.

Accidents.

(1) On the Road.

One death of an Alton inhabitant in a road accident was notified during the year, and there were 381 accidents reported in the Alton police area; approximately the same (373) as in 1960. During 1960 there were 304 children under five killed on the roads in England and Wales. In Alton there is a Road Safety Committee of the Urban Council, and the police authority assists by giving talks and instruction to school children. As with all health education, a campaign for Road Safety is most effective if directed towards the young. In the clinics pamphlets were distributed, and publicity was given to the necessity of teaching road sense to children by parents.

(2) At Home.

Through the courtesy of Mr. D. F. Aiano the secretary of Alton General Hospital, a list of persons from this area treated

in the Casualty Departments for accidents in the home has been provided. The list has been arranged according to age and injuries received,

Accidents in the Home, 1961

Approx % of population at age group	Age	Cuts		Burns & Scalds		Falls		Miscell- aneous		Total
		m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	
8%	0-4	11	11	6	3	20	8	24	11	94
15%	5-14	14	10	2	—	13	9	21	10	79
66%	15-64	15	20	3	9	2	25	17	32	123
11%	65 +	1	5	1	1	2	6	1	8	25
Total		41	46	12	13	37	48	63	61	—
		87		25		85		124		321

According to a survey into the incidence of accidents, carried out by the University of California, the age at greatest risk from accidents at home is 2 - 3 years. From the above table it will be noted that the age group from birth to four years old, approximately 8% of the population, provided 34% of the casualties treated at the hospital. These included a scalded baby aged three months, another aged ten months, and a child of three with a plastic arrow in the ear. Among the various articles of diet reported for children in this age group were broken glass, a metal fuse, and a metal screw. One child swallowed a number of seasickness tablets, two children took an overdose of aspirin. It is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to keep all young children from minor injury, but it is essential that all drugs should be kept locked up, and not merely supposedly out of childrens' reach.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

No action was required under section 47 of the Act, regarding removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

Old Persons.

Today approximately one person in every seven is over pensionable age. This compares with one person in thirteen in 1921, and the proportion of older persons in the population will still further increase. A joint sub-committee was set up together with the Rural Council, to consider a scheme for old persons dwellings with a resident warden. A small number of old persons in the town would benefit considerably from such a scheme. They could thereby, be encouraged to maintain their independence yet receive

help, remain in the community yet be sheltered from some of the difficulties which this involves. It would help old persons for whom the Home Help Service is not completely sufficient.

In Alton there is an Old Peoples Welfare Committee, four old persons clubs, (Holybourne, Beech, All Saints, and the new central premises, opened in 1961, in Normandy Street). The last mentioned club is open to old persons from the rural area on Tuesdays, for a nominal yearly fee. A chiropody service is entirely maintained by the Committee for old persons in the town. The great problem for old people is loneliness, and this leads to lessened interest in life, poor nutrition, and deterioration in health and in ability to cope with normal domestic difficulties. Not every old person, however, is prepared to welcome uninvited visitors, as failing powers and suspicion of neighbours sometimes go together. In Alton, effort is made to provide for the recreation and interest of the aged, as well as for their material needs, through old persons housing and the welfare authorities and through voluntary effort.

Factories.

Information concerning factories will be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, and also in the appendices.

Water Supply, Sewerage, Sewage Disposal and Public Cleansing.

Mr. Hugh Burn, A.M.I.Mun.E., the Engineer and Surveyor, has kindly provided the following information on water supply, sewerage, sewage disposal and public cleansing in the area in 1961.

Water Supply.

The undertaking passed to the Mid-Wessex Water Company on 1st April and is now being administered by them from Frimley Green.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

This year has seen the commencement of the erection of a third brewery in Alton which will manufacture Lager beer.

The resulting flows will mean a considerable increase in the quantity of sewage to be pumped and treated and the Council's Consulting Engineers have prepared a scheme for the enlargement, to 24" diameter, of the main sewer taking the flow to the pumping station, the installation of extra pumping equipment and a 16" diameter rising main to the treatment works. It is anticipated that this work will be completed by November, 1962.

This is the first part of a larger scheme which allows for the enlargement of the works themselves which the Consultant's will be reporting on during the coming months.

Close liaison is being maintained with the Thames Conservancy Board on these matters.

The replacement of the filtering media of three of the high level filters was completed early in the year and an improvement was found in the final effluent.

Owing to a defect occurring in the measuring apparatus allied with the scheme outlined above which will allow for new equipment, no figures of flow treated can be given for the year.

Public Cleansing.

During the year a new site for controlled tipping was found and is now in use. The collection and disposal of refuse has continued as in previous years, the usual care being observed regarding the control of flies and vermin. Street sweeping has continued as usual and gully cleansing contracts have been renewed.

Mains Water.

Throughout the year the quality and quantity of the water supplied has been satisfactory. Further information regarding water supply and sewerage will be found in the Chief Public Health Inspector's part of this report.

Sewerage.

The following areas of the town are not sewered; Beech, Windmill Lane and part of Winchester Road. As the village of Beech increases in size the Council may wish to consider the introduction of a main sewer.

Swimming Baths.

There are no public swimming baths in Alton.

Health Education.

Every attempt was made in 1961 to provide publicity in matters of health, through posters and also through pamphlets sent out with other Council communications to ratepayers. It was not considered inappropriate to include enrolment forms for blood donors in the same envelope as the rate demands. In 1961, a total of 413 donors attended three donor sessions which this Council widely publicised for the National Blood Transfusion Service. These donors came from both Urban and Rural areas, (slightly over 2% of the appropriate age group of a widely scattered, predominantly rural, population). According to the 1960 report of the Ministry of Health, the average number of donations for England and Wales for the age group is just over 3%. It is probable that the rate in the Urban Council area is considerably higher.

Supplies of Dried Milk.

Special arrangements were made during the year for the distribution in this area of dried milk to infants, if the Ministry

considered that the level of radioactivity in fresh milk had reached a dangerous level. This critical level was not attained. Normally, welfare milk is available for distribution by the W.V.S from the Civil Defence Centre in Alton. It is very much to be hoped that arrangements will be made so that such welfare services, the local clinic, and other advisory services can be provided which will all function in one building — the old out-patients department of Inwood Cottage Hospital. This is of adequate size, central and when properly equipped suitable in all respects for such a purpose.

PROVISIONS OF GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Devolution of Health Functions.

On the 1st April, 1953, there came into operation a scheme of devolution of Health functions to existing District Health Sub-Committees. In this area, the No. 7 (Alton District Health Sub-Committee comprises the area of the Alton Rural District Council and Urban District Council, to which sub-committee both Councils nominate members. Among the resolutions made were :—

“In order to make the fullest possible use of local knowledge and to widen interest there be devolved upon the District Health Sub-Committee as far as possible responsibility for the supervision of the Health Services in the area; in particular services operating under Section 22 (Care of Mothers and Young Children), Section 24 (Health Visiting), Section 26 (Vaccination) and Section 28 (Prevention of illness, care and aftercare, so far as that section does not relate to tuberculosis) of the National Health Service Act, 1946, as amended, provided that those functions are exercised in such a way as to conform with the existing scheme.”

Ambulance Facilities.

The Ambulance Service is conducted by the County Council who supply monthly details of journeys to the Public Health Committee. The ambulances for the area are stationed at Alton.

Applications for the use of ambulances are made to :—

The Aldershot Ambulance Station
(Telephone : Aldershot 2244)

Child Welfare.

A Child Welfare Clinic is held every Tuesday afternoon from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Assembly Rooms, Alton. This centre is for the attendance of mothers and babies, and children under five. Activities at the clinic, at which a doctor and nurse attend, include advice on feeding and child management, immunisation, weighing and the distribution of welfare foods and certain Medicaments.

National welfare foods are distributed from the following centres in Alton Urban District :—

Health Visiting.

The Health Visitors for Alton are Mrs. J. E. Morrow, 13 Whitedown, Alton, (Telephone Alton 2097), and Miss D. McKenzie Flat 2c, Northfield House, Shooters Way, Basingstoke (Telephone, Basingstoke 1897)

Home Help Service.

A scheme of domestic help is available. The helpers are experienced women carefully chosen for their suitability for the work. They will run the home carefully, their job being to take over the housewife's work.

Home Helps are available for the following type of cases:— when the housewife is sick or has to have an operation; when a new baby is expected; when several members of a household are ill at one time; and to give help to the elderly and infirm.

Application for a Home Help, accompanied by a medical certificate, should be made to the District Organiser. The charge depends on the hours worked and the income of the family after certain allowances have been made.

Division VI includes the Urban District of Alton and the Divisional Organiser now has her office at the Town Hall, Petersfield (Telephone: Petersfield 771/773), to whom application should be made for a Home Help.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examinations of clinical matter (sputum, swabs, etc.) and water, milk and foodstuffs are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester.

Chemical analyses of water, sewage, milk and other samples are carried out by arrangement with the Public Analyst, Southampton.

Thanks are expressed to the Director of Public Health Laboratory Service and the Public Analyst, Southampton, for their ready advice and assistance granted during the year.

Midwifery and Home Nursing.

These services are administered as follows :—

DISTRICT SERVED	NURSE	SERVICE GIVEN
Alton	Mrs. M. A. Staples, S.R.N., S.C.M., 1, Pond Cottages, Chawton, Alton	Midwifery and General Nursing
Alton	Miss E. J. Howton, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.M. 14, Elmwood Close, Alton	„ „

Relief duties to cover holidays, sickness or emergency calls are undertaken by neighbouring nurse midwives.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

A clinic is held every Thursday at 2 p.m. at Alton General Hospital.

The Medical Officers attending the Alton Clinics at the end of the year:—

1st Thursday	Dr. W. S. Larcombe and Dr. P. Shortt (at 2.30 p.m.)
2nd Thursday	Dr. T. C. Wilson
3rd Thursday	Dr. H. E. Larcombe
4th Thursday	Mr. A. F. Goode

School Health Services.

Clinics are held as follows:—

Orthopaedic	Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton
Ear, nose and throat	Alton General Hospital
Dental	At Schools
Opthalmic and orthoptic	Alton General Hospital
Child guidance	Health Centre, Winchester
Speech Therapy	Alton General Hospital.

Tuberculosis.

Clinics are held at Aldershot, Basingstoke and Winchester, whilst sanatoria are available at Bishopstoke, Chandler's Ford, and Liphook.

Venereal Diseases.

Clinics are held at Aldershot and Winchester.

Area Welfare Officer.

The Area Welfare Officer is Mr. W. Pepper, whose office is at 14 King George Avenue, Petersfield (Telephone Petersfield 1199—mornings only).

Area Mental Welfare Officer.

Mr. A. C. Wood, Manor Park House, Aldershot (Telephone Aldershot 20395)

Part II
(Medical Statistics)

Table 1—General Statistics

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	4085
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£124,896
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£521
Population (mid 1961)	...	...	...	...	8920
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	2644

Table 2—Live Births

				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	50	76	126
Illegitimate	...	...	...	7	5	12
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			Total	57	81	138

Live birth rate per 1000 estimated population,

England and Wales (1961)	...	...	...	17.4
Live birth rate per 1000 of estimated population, Alton,	...			15.5
Comparability factor 1.01, adjusted birth rate	...			15.7
Illegitimate Live Birth per cent of Total Live Births	...			8.7

Table 3—Still Births

				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	0	0	0
Illegitimate	...	...	...	0	0	0
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			Total	0	0	0
Still birth rate per 1000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	138

Table 4—Deaths (from all causes)

	Male	Female	Total
	69	60	129
Death rate per 1000 estimated population, Alton	...	...	14.5
Comparability factor 0.96, adjusted death rate	...	...	13.9
Death rate per 1000 population, England and Wales (Provisional 1961)	...	...	12.0

Table 5—Infant Mortality (Deaths of infants under one year of age)

				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	1	3	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—	1
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			Total	2	3	5
Infant mortality per 1000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	36.2
(Infant mortality per 1000 live births, England & Wales, 1961)	...	...	...	...	...	21.4
Legitimate infant mortality per 1000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	31.7
Illegitimate infant mortality per 1000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	83.3

Table 6—Neo-natal Mortality

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	1	2	3
Maternal Deaths including abortions	0	0	0
Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	...	...	21.7
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	...	...	21.7
Maternal mortality rate per 1000 live and still births	...	...	0
Peri-natal mortality rate (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and stillbirths)	...	...	21.7

Table 7—Causes of Death.

	Diseases	Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—	—
2	Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8	Measles	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	—	1	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	—	2	2
11	„ „ lung and bronchus	3	—	3
12	„ „ breast	—	3	3
13	„ „ uterus	—	1	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	8	14
15	Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	—	1	1
16	Diabetes	—	2	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	7	5	12
18	Coronary disease, angina	24	11	35
19	Hypertension with heart disease ..	2	3	5
20	Other heart diseases	5	5	10
21	Other circulatory diseases	3	1	4
22	Influenza	3	—	3
23	Pneumonia	1	2	3
24	Bronchitis	5	1	6
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ..	2	2	4
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	—	1	1
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	—	—	—
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	—	—
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	—	—	—
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion ..	—	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	1	1	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined causes ..	2	7	9
33	Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1
34	All other accidents	1	—	1
35	Suicide	2	2	4
36	Homicide and operations of war ..	1	1	2
	All causes	69	60	129

Table 8—Deaths according to ages.

Age group	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 ..	2	3	5
1— 9 ..	1	1	2
10—19 ..	0	1	1
20—29 ..	0	0	0
30—39 ..	2	2	4
40—49 ..	2	2	4
50—59 ..	9	4	13
60—69 ..	15	6	21
70—79 ..	18	22	40
80—89 ..	19	16	35
90—99 ..	1	3	4
	69	60	129

Table 9—Number of Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the last 5 years

Disease	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Scarlet Fever	2	0	3	7	1
Whooping Cough	8	28	13	3	1
Measles	48	20	104	4	123
Acute Pneumonia	7	13	4	2	5
Food Poisoning	1	0	1	0	0
Dysentery	1	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	2	2	0	0	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0	1	0
Totals	69	63	125	17	131

Table 10—Tuberculosis (details of new cases for the past 5 years)

Pulmonary	{ Male	1	3	2	1	1
	{ Female	1	0	1	0	0
Non-Pulmonary	{ Male	0	0	0	0	0
	{ Female	0	0	0	1	0
		2	3	3	2	1

ALTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector for the year ended 31st December, 1961.

To the Chairman and Members of the

Alton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1961, on the Sanitary circumstances of the District.

A further three families were rehoused from sub-standard accommodation during the year, and a start has been made on the preparation of a further slum clearance survey.

The "Appointed Day" for the operation of the Slaughterhouses Act was confirmed by the Minister, and many meetings were held with the owners, occupiers and architects to discuss the various proposals to bring the premises to the required standard.

The year was otherwise uneventful, but I would like to thank Dr. R. L. Goodey, Medical Officer of Health, for his ready and willing guidance and co-operation; the Chairman of the Council, Councillor A. N. Bisset; the Chairman of the Health, Housing & Estates Committee, Councillor E. T. Hutley and all members of the Council for their confidence and support; to Mr. M. G. Worthington for his loyalty, support and versatility, with especial reference to rent collection in time of need; and to Mr. V. F. Dunk for his help and support.

Ready and willing assistance and co-operation is always forthcoming from colleagues in other Departments, and to them also I give my thanks.

DUDLEY M. LING,

Chief Public Health Inspector and Housing Manager.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat.

The inspection of all animals slaughtered in the town is a target which has not been reached, and cannot be reached with existing legislation and staff, as under present Regulations it is permissible to remove carcasses within three hours of slaughter, irrespective of the day of the week or whether inspection has been carried out. Without qualified assistance, inspections cannot and are not maintained during holidays or sickness, and, whilst the target set is 100% inspection, during 1961 the percentage inspected was approximately 94%. The other 6% passed into the usual

food channels without inspection. This represents some 800 carcasses, or enough meat to supply the population of Alton for two months. The total weight of meat and offal condemned as unfit for human consumption amounted to 6 tons 18 cwts. 1 qtr.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	759	535	841	3618	6429
Number Inspected ..	699	525	779	3298	6065
All diseases except T.B. and cysticerici. Whole car- cases condemned	5	5	2	7	49
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	82	38	—	43	315
Percentage of the number inspected infected with disease other than T.B. and cysticerici	12.4	8.0	0.25	1.5	6.0
<u>Tuberculosis only :</u> Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	—	—	23
Percentage of the number inspected infected with T.B.	—	—	—	—	0.36
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—
Generalized and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Return of Diseases for which whole Carcases were condemned

Disease	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Abscess	—	—	—	—	5	5
Emaciation	—	—	—	3	2	5
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	3	3
Fever	1	1	—	3	15	20
Immaturity	—	—	1	—	—	1
Jaundice	—	—	—	—	1	1
Moribund	—	2	—	—	—	2
Oedema	1	2	1	1	5	10
Pyæmia	—	—	—	—	10	10
Septicæmia	3	—	—	—	7	10
Uraemia	—	—	—	—	1	1
	5	5	2	7	49	68

Return of Diseases for which organs and part Carcases were condemned

Disease	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Head :						
Abscess	1	1	—	—	1	3
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	23	23
Heart :						
Pericarditis	1	—	—	—	91	92
Lungs :						
Echinococcus cysts	—	—	—	6	—	6
Pneumonia	5	—	—	—	93	98
Strongylus rufescens	—	—	—	2	—	2
Livers :						
Abscess	47	—	—	—	—	47
Ascarides	—	—	—	—	89	89
Cavernous Angioma	—	21	—	—	—	21
Cirrhosis	5	—	—	—	16	21
Distomatosis	20	14	—	25	—	59
Echinococcus cysts	—	—	—	8	—	8
Hepatitis	1	—	—	—	89	90
Strongylus rufescens	—	—	—	2	—	2
Tenuicolis cysts	—	—	—	2	—	2
Kidneys :						
Nephritis	—	1	—	—	10	11
Spleen :						
Peritonitis	1	—	—	—	1	2
Part Carcases :						
Abscess	1	—	—	—	3	4
Bruising	2	—	—	—	4	6
Fever	—	1	—	—	9	10
Urticaria	—	—	—	—	—	—

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933-1954.

11 (eleven) Licences have been issued to slaughtermen in this district. All trainees are tested in their skill in the use of a mechanically operated instrument before a licence is issued to them. In addition to Captive Bolts, a pair of electric stunners is in use at the slaughterhouse. Stand-by instruments are maintained for use in case of breakdown.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT, 1958

The "appointed Day," in respect of the operation of the Structural Regulations of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, was confirmed by the Minister, as the 31st December, 1961, and on that day both the slaughterhouses, at Amery Street and Kent Lane, ceased to be licenced and were closed.

During the year, the Kent Lane premises were not used for slaughtering, but by August plans were being prepared and by the end of the year work had commenced to completely restore the premises to comply with the Act.

The Amery Street slaughterhouse remained in operation until the last day, i.e. 31st December, 1961, and although plans were prepared to improve the facilities, no work was commenced and the premises were closed. This is the first time that the town has been without a slaughterhouse for many generations, as even in 1784 the local slaughtering were sufficient to keep three tanneries in operation.

Food Condemned other than at the Slaughterhouse

Biscuits lbs. ozs.	Cheese lbs. ozs.	Meat lbs. ozs.	Offal lbs.	Fish lbs.	Tinned Food lbs. ozs.	Frozen Food lbs. ozs.	Poultry
55 8	21 12	225 5	57	28	225 12	311 packets	44

I am pleased to report that no seizure of diseased meat or other food has been necessary during the year.

Food Adulteration.

This section of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, is operated by the County Council, and I am much obliged to Mr. J. S. Perry, Chief Inspector of Weights & Measures, for the following details of samples taken during the year ended 31st March, 1962, within this area :-

Samples Procured in the Alton Urban District.

During the year ended the 31st March, 1962, twenty-four samples were procured under the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, within the area of the Alton Urban District Council. This number included eleven milk samples and thirteen samples of other food and Drugs.

The milk samples were all satisfactory, and of the thirteen other articles only one was the subject of complaint. This related to a sample of milk bread, in which the skimmed milk solids amounted to only 2.5 per cent. Although there is at present no statutory standard relating to milk bread in operation, the previous standard required the presence of a minimum of 6.3 per cent skimmed milk solids and, generally, this is adhered to and is regarded by Public Analysts as a reasonable minimum in such products. The Baker concerned was informed of the result, and he expressed concern about the small proportion of skimmed milk solids found in the sample and undertook to amend his recipe to conform to the accepted limits.

The number of samples taken within the area during the year was appreciably below that affecting the previous year but, although the figure may fluctuate to some extent, it should be pointed out that many articles of food sold within the Urban District are subject to check in other areas, an observation which applies especially to milk and other pre-packed articles,

Attention was given to the provisions of the Labelling of Food Order, and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, with regard to their application to the labelling and description of food and drugs.

Milk Supplies.

Distribution of milk within the area is carried out by eight retailers, all licenced by the Council by virtue of powers vested by the Hampshire County Council.

Ice Cream.

No ice-cream is manufactured in the town, but there are now six vans plying in the area in addition to 42 registered retailers. No action in respect of contravention of the Heat Treatment Regulations has been necessary.

Food Premises.

Those premises and vehicles retailing food were inspected from time to time, to ensure compliance with the Regulations. No statutory action was necessary to enforce same, but many verbal, or otherwise informal, notices were issued and complied with. The food premises in the area can be summarised as follows:-

Bake-houses	3	Confectioners	11	Hotels	7
Bakers Shops	3	Dairies	2	Public Houses	13
Breweries	2	Factory Canteens	9	School Kitchens	3
Butchers	10	Fish Shops	6	Wines & Off	
Cafes	10	Food Warehouses	2	Licences	4
Chemists	3	General Stores	30	Slaughterhouses	1
Clubs	6	Greengrocers	7		

OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES

Rodent Control and Pest Destruction.

Mr. Dunk continued to carry out this work on one day per week. The cases where infestations became out of hand were more numerous, and the service failed on several occasions. The supply of Warfarin to householders has been tried but cannot be considered a satisfactory substitute for a Rodent Operator, and the time will come when more assistance for this work will be needed. In addition to rodent infestations the following were treated :-

Fleas	...	...	...	2
Rooms & Bedding	...	...	...	2
Wasp nests	...	...	...	6

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Two establishments in the district are licensed as Pet Shops. They are:—

Messrs. M. A. Rose & Son Ltd., 23, Market Street, Alton.

Mr. F. Beresford, 9, Normandy Street, Alton.

The premises are regularly visited. No contraventions of the Acts were found.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are no Common Lodging Houses registered in the area, the nearest being at Basingstoke.

Water Supply.

A piped supply is available throughout the whole of the area, but Beech, being less urbanised than the remainder, has a number of houses still dependent upon rain water supplies. These number 52 dwellings. As reported elsewhere the main supply was controlled by the Council until 1st April, 1961, when it was handed over to the Mid-Wessex Water Company. Samples of the supply were taken at frequent regular intervals, and on no occasion during the year was there any degree of pollution.

There are 2644 dwellings in the area, which 2592 are connected to the water main, serving an estimated population of 8,738.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The sewerage system and sewage disposal works are reported upon by the Engineer & Surveyor in the Medical Officer of Health's report.

The whole of the area is sewered, with the exception of a small number of isolated properties at Windmill Hill, Winchester Road, and the whole of Beech. The first two cannot be easily or economically sewered and are not liable to cause a Public Health Nuisance, but with the rapid expansion of Beech it cannot be over-

looked that the terrain encourages a flow of sub-soil water towards the main road, and with it any overflows or seepages from septic tanks.

Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act, 1960.

The licenced sites were maintained in good order and presented no difficulty, but “Fishers Meadow” continued to be occupied by as many as eight caravans, and complaints were received regarding noisy generators, refuse and rats.

Slum Clearence.

A further three families were rehoused from sub-standard houses during the year, and the original programme can be considered complete.

Action Taken.

(a) Houses demolished.				
As a result of formal or informal procedure under				
Sec. 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	...	...		6
(b) Unfit houses closed.				
Under Sec. 16(1) Housing Act, 1957	...	...		2
(c) Unfit houses made fit.				
After informal action	...	...	...	12
After formal action (a) Public Health Acts			...	nil
(b) Housing Act, 1957			...	2

Number of Inspections made.

Complaints received	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Complaints investigated	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Complaints justified	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Housing Defects—Public Health and Housing Acts							
Inspections and revisits	..	..	..	..	..	..	206
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Tents, vans and sheds	..	..	..	..	..	..	54
Factories (mechanical power)	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Factories (non-mechanical power)	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Other Food Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	64
Cafes, Restaurants, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Ice Cream Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Piggeries (and other animals not domestic)	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Miscellaneous visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	62
Disinfestation	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Water Supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Smoke Abatement	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Food Vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Interviews at office (Housing Management and Public Health)	..						1676

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

Part I.

Under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, the District Council is the authority responsible for enforcing the provisions regarding sanitary accommodation in all factories and, in addition, the provision with respect to cleanliness, overcrowding, workroom temperature and ventilators and floor drainage in all factories where mechanical power is not used.

The following particulars are those prescribed on the administration of the above Acts:—

Premises (1)	No. on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspect- ions (3)	Written Notice (4)	Prosecu- tions (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	4	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	48	16	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworks premises)	16	14	—	—

Cases in which defects were found:—

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remed- ied (3)	To HM Insp. (4)	Referred By HM. Insp. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	5	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
	3	5	—	2	—

Part VIII of the Act. (Outwork). (Sections 110 & 111).

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers in August list, required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	Notices Served	Prose- cutions
Wearing apparel, making, etc.	3	Nil	Nil	Nil

Noise Abatement Act, 1960.

No statutory action was necessary during the year, but several intimation notices were issued; all in respect of inconsiderate radios or record players.

Statutory Notices

Number of Statutory Notices issued for abatement or abolition of nuisances.

	Served	Complied with
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93	—	—
Housing Act, 1957, Section 9	2	2
Food and Drugs Act, 1938/55	—	—
	2	2

Legal Proceedings.

No legal proceedings were taken during the year.

Disinfections.

Steam disinfection of bedding, clothing, etc., may still be carried out, by arrangement, at the Aldershot or Farnham Hospitals.

Number of premises disinfected after infectious disease	...	2
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Housing Management.

Private Properties completed in 1961	49
Council Properties	—
Families rehoused from slum clearance properties	...	...	...	3
Number of slum clearance properties vacated	...	...	...	3
Casual vacancies occurring during the year	...	...	...	31
Transfers arranged in Council property	...	...	...	27
Exchanges permitted from other Councils' property	...	...	...	1
Exchanges permitted from private property	...	...	...	nil

C. Mills & Co. Printers, Alton